

## ABSTRACT

There is provided a packet processing device for, when decoding variable length data that is split into packets, realizing  
5 a reduction in processing load at a decoder, by providing information for identifying a start position of the data. A header analyzing section (11) determines whether data stored in a packet is start data containing start information or other data. A data  
10 extracting section (12) extracts data from a packet and stores the data in a buffer (13). A buffer controlling section (14) causes a start position memory (15) and a number-of-starts counter (16) to retain an address position and the number of start data stored in the buffer (13). A decode section (20) refers to the start  
15 position memory (15) and the number-of-starts counter (16) and executes a decode process for the data stored in the buffer (13).